

Claims:

1. A cable assembly comprising:

a plurality of wire elements;

each of the wire elements having a plurality of signal conductors encompassed by a dielectric

5 sheath, and the sheath encompassed by a conductive shield;

the wire elements each having a first end, the first ends being arranged side-by-side in a row;

a terminal element connected to the wire elements;

the terminal element having a top surface and a bottom surface, an array of first contacts on the top surface, and an array of second contacts on at least one of the top surface and the bottom

10 surface the bottom surface, each of the first contacts being electrically connected to a corresponding one of the second contacts; and

each of the signal conductors of the wire elements being ohmically connected to a corresponding one of the first contacts.

2. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein each wire element includes two signal conductors.

15 3. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein the signal conductors are parallel to each other.

4. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein each wire element includes a parallel pair of conductors.

5. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein the terminal element has a third contact connected to the shield of each of the wire elements.

6. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein the wire elements are arranged in a flat ribbon and the
20 signal conductors are in a common plane.

7. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein the array of second contacts are positioned on the bottom surface.

8. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein the terminal element is a planar member.
9. The cable assembly of claim 1 wherein the terminal element is a flexible sheet.
10. An electronic wiring assembly comprising:
 - a printed wiring element;
 - 5 a cable assembly having opposed ends, one end connected to the printed wiring element;
the cable assembly comprising a plurality of wires each having a plurality of signal conductor
and a surrounding shield;
the cable assembly having a terminal element at at least one end and connected to each of the
wires;
 - 10 the terminal element having opposed major faces, and having an array of first contacts on a
first face to which the signal conductors of the wires are respectively connected, and an array of
second contacts on the opposed face, each of the first contact being electrically connected to a
corresponding second contact; and
each of the second contacts overlaying and compressively contacting a corresponding contact
15 in an array of conductive contacts on the printed wiring element.
11. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 10 including a clamp connected to the printed wiring
element with the terminal element captured therebetween.
12. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 10 wherein each wire element includes two signal
conductors.
- 20 13. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 10 wherein the signal conductors are parallel to each
other.
14. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 10 wherein each wire element includes a parallel pair of
conductors.

15. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 10 wherein the terminal element has a third contact connected to the shield of each of the wire elements.

16. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 10 wherein the wire elements are arranged in a flat ribbon.

5 17. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 16 wherein the signal conductors are in a common plane.

18. An electronic wiring assembly comprising:

a printed wiring element;

a cable assembly having opposed ends, one end connected to the printed wiring element;

10 the cable assembly comprising a plurality of wires each having at least a first signal conductor and a surrounding shield;

the cable assembly having a terminal element at at least one end and connected to each of the wires;

15 the terminal element having opposed major faces, and having an array of first contacts to which the signal conductors of the wires are respectively connected, and an array of second contacts, each of the first contacts being electrically connected to a corresponding second contact;

each of the second contacts overlaying and compressively contacting a corresponding contact in an array of conductive contacts on the printed wiring element; and

20 a clamp connected to the printed wiring element and operable to provide compressive contact between the second contacts of the terminal element and the conductive contacts on the printed wiring element.

19. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 18 wherein each wire includes a second signal conductor.

20. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 18 wherein the clamp is connected to the printed wiring element with the terminal element captured therebetween.
21. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 18 wherein the signal conductors are in a common plane.
- 5 22. The electronic wiring assembly of claim 18 wherein each wire includes a conductive shield, and wherein the terminal element has a third contact connected to the shield of each of the wire elements.